Secular Department.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe not long since recalled in the House of Peers the recollection of that famous speech of his distinguished relative, Mr Canning, foretelling the approach of a time when there should be a war of principles. That war has assuredly begun, but whether it is destined to swell into the gigantic proportions predicted by these statesmen is a secret still hid in the womb of time. The Conference at Warsaw has been called a failure, and according to all appearances it would seem that the Emperor of Austria has failed to extract, either from his brethren of Russia or France, any pledge which would encourage him once more to brave the hazard of an encounter with France. For the present, therefore, Austria feels herself isolated, and unless provoked to desperation, will probably leave Victor Emmanuel to consolidate his annexation of Naples to Piedmont. But whilst Francis occupies Rome in the name of the Pope there can be no realization of the idea of Italy one and indivisible. Garibaldi was in one sense right when he declared that he would proclaim the independence of Italy from the top of the Quirinal. His only error consisted in the miscalculation of his strength. He had force enough to conquer Sicily, and probably to conquer Naples, but he had not an army able to cope with the victor of Magenta and Solferino, or compel his cohorts to re-embark at Civita Vecchia for Toulon or Marseilles. So long as Louis Napoleon keeps his hand on Rome, he is like a chess-player who has a position which enables him to command the board. Whether he rules as the Pope's master or the Pope's substitute, Italy can never be united, independent, and free unless Rome be the capital.

Looking, then, at this obstacle to the fulfilment of the wishes of Garibaldi or his Royal master, we foresee great difficulties in the way of Italian independence, and there is no small danger lest Imperial ambition should tempt Louis Napoleon to step in and assert for himself the Protectorate of Italy. Whether Venetia is to continue under the thraldom of Austria is a serious question. At present there seems to be no immediate prospect of a Congress, which might arrange for the sale of that costly province; and the two other great Continental Powers are at all events determined to discountenance any violent attempt to wrest that dominion from Austria. Russia is, no doubt, greatly alarmed at the French Emperor's doctrine in regard to nationalities, and sees how it involves the question of Poland. But for the exhaustion of the Crimean war, there is no reason to suppose that Russia would so tamely have submitted to the daring movements of Victor Emmanuel. His invasion of Naples, as well as his seizure of the Pope's provinces, must be regarded by the Autocrat as a flagrant violation of the law of legitimacy. The Holy Alliance has been, in effect, extinct ever since the expulsion of the elder Bourbons in 1830, followed by the Russian annexation of Cracow, but the shadow of the treaty still survived; and, had the late Emperor Nicholas lived, and his power remained unbroken, we should, ere this, have seen a direct collision between despotism and liberty. But the Crimean war has crippled Russia to an extent which could not easily have been imagined, Russia was not, indeed, as Mr Cobden predicted, "crumbled up like a sheet of brown paper." She made a gallant stand against the two great Western Powers as the protectors of Turkey, but it was a fearful expenditure both of life and of material resources. The conscription depopulated the Empire, and stripped the agricultural districts of men, of cattle, and of implements of husbandry. The southern provinces are said to be especially in a state of great depletion. There is also the question of domestic slavery as connected with the serfs, which menaces the Czar with a double danger. The finances are in a wretched state, and there are not funds to put a great army in motion. On the whole, then, it looks as if Russia were bound over to keep the peace, not as Lord Brougham once said of England in the recognizances of a debt of eight hundred millions, but by the exhaustion consequent on that war into which both Russia and England were so unintentionally drifted, doubtless for wise ends.

Prussia has been severely censured for her timidity and double-dealing. We believe the charge to be too true, but we believe it to be the result of conscious weakness. Prussia is a newly-compacted kingdom, and her straggling provinces subject her to great danger. A bold policy would probably be the wisest course; and nothing could be more undignified, and, in the end more dangerous to its own stability, than the neutrality which the poor King tried to maintain. The Prince Regent professes to be actuated by wiser counsels, but still there is the same timid, doubtful course pursued, which at once deprives his Government of the respect of the Liritimates or the attachment of the Liberals. If Germany would unite, Germany might dictate its conditions to the Continent. But Germany is divided between Protestants and Romanists, and this has been the case ever since the thirty year's war two hundred years ago. Hence the feuds which prevail, hence the jealousy of Popish Austria, of Protestant Prussia and yet Prussia is itself divided, and tries, by means of Concordats and other devices, to steer what is called a safe course, although it only paralyzes her strength, and exhibits her to the world as a broken reed, on which no dependence can be placed.

The position of Europe is very remarkable, and deserves serious attention in connexion with the prospects of Italy and the ambition of France.—*London Record*

DETAILS OF THE CAPTURE OF THE TAKU FORTS.

The Overland Mail arrived last night. Hong Kong advices are to the 12th of September.

The *Times* gives full details of the forts from its special correspondent. The *Times* says it is unable to confirm or contradict the important statement that it was the intention of Lord Elgin and Baron Gros to proceed to Pekin as guest of the Emperor, and accompanied only by an escort of cavalry. A hope is expressed that the news is not true.

The conquest of the forts is described as a dashing little campaign of eight days. When the allies established themselves at Pehtsang they had still a march of twelve miles before they could arrive at the object of their attack. The Chinese are learning the art of war, and contrary to all Chinese precedent, it was found that positions on the road had been taken up with considerable military skill and fortified with care. A Tartar camp had been formed, and the best troops of China placed behind the works. If the enemy had weapons equal to our own the contest might have been compared with several European battles.

The English and French acted together with harmony and equal gallantry in the attack on the camp. The first fort fell to the English, who were about 10 minutes before the French on their side of the attack, Lieut. Shaw being the first man in. The possession of this camp brought the allies within half a mile of the great north fort, which appears to be the key of the whole position. But some difference of opinion is said to have occurred between the two generals on this point. The French commander agreed to send his forces to the attack, leaving Sir Hope Grant the responsibility. The attack was made on the morning of the 21st, four English and four French gunboats diverting the attention of the forts lower down on the northern bend. When the batteries opened, the explosion of the Armstrong gun was found to be tremendous. As their shells pierced the walls and burst within the fort awful explosions shook the ground; but amid the ruin the gallant Tartars stood to their guns, and as the field-pieces advanced to complete the work, and as the riflemen scattered themselves under the walls, the fire from the fort was still hot, and many a daring fellow was struck by the rude missiles which fell among them. It was here and in the assault which now took place that much of our loss was suffered, and that the deeds of heroism occurred which are recorded in the *Times* correspondence. Even at last the obstinate resistance of these Tartars was overcome only by an escalade. The surrender of the other forts followed, not however, without some chicanery on the part of the Viceroy.

The loss has been severe, 22 officers were wounded, of whom 2 dangerously, 13, severely, and 7 slightly. The officers wounded dangerously are Captain Miller, 67th Regiment, gunshot wound in breast; and Lieutenant Kingsley, same regiment, gunshot wound in knee. The 44th Regiment had 10 men killed and 50 wounded—4 mortally and 38 dangerously and severely; 67th Regiment had 6 killed and 62 wounded—40 dangerously and severely. Total British—17 non-commissioned officers killed and 101 men wounded.

ARRIVAL OF THE IRISH BRIGADE.

Queenstown, Nov. 3.—The steamer Dee, from Havre, with the Irish Brigade, arrived here at 10 o'clock this morning. The Brigade met with a most enthusiastic reception. A deputation from Cork, with a band, met the Brigade at the entrance of the harbor and escorted the steamer on her passage, the band playing Irish national airs, whilst the men of the Brigade crowded the paddle-boxes and rigging of the Dee, cheering most vociferously. As the Dee steamed past her Majesty's ships Sampson and Hawk, the royal standard was lowered. The men appeared healthy, and physically none the worse from the campaign.

British and For. American News.

United States.

From Washington.—*Secession Subsiding.*—The secession excitement has successfully subsided here since the adjournment of the South Carolina Legislature, though efforts are still made by the secession-screws at the South to keep it up by inflammatory publications. It will be comparatively renewed when that Legislature shall reassemble at its regular session, ten days hence, though the money pressure and paralysis of trade in the mean time must produce some impression even there. The present cotton tariff already oppresses property holders severely, who are expected to bear the burden of the projected military establishment and defences.

Most discreet Southern leaders propose, as a mode of extrication from the present difficulty, that a Convention of Southern States shall be called to consider the crisis and the remedies. South Carolina will of course, be expected to attend and abide by their decision. Such a Convention would vote down any project of immediate dissolution, and, if South Carolina refused her assent, she would be left without the sympathy or cooperation of those upon whom her present reliance is placed.

Messrs. Holt and Floyd are decidedly against all these revolutionary schemes. The former expresses his opinions emphatically, while holding as much, and, perhaps, more loyalty to the South than those who are in officers for disunion. He regards the proposed remedy as worse than the disease.

Hall's Exploring Expedition.—From a letter dated at Holsteinborg, Greenland, July 17, 1860, addressed to Henry Grinnell, Esq., New York, which appears in the New York *Tribune* and contains the first official intelligence from the expedition of C. F. Hall, which sailed from the United States last May in search of further relics of Sir John Franklin, or any surviving members of his party, we give the following extracts:—

Our voyage thus far has been attended with calms, fogs and head winds, thus prolonging it to 39 days. The usual time may be set down at from 25 to 30. We arrived here in Holsteinborg Harbor on the morning of July 7. The Rescue, of your first expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, in 1850, arrived at midnight of July 11. The George Henry and Rescue parted company the third night out, during a heavy wind; but Holsteinborg being the appointed rendezvous, each vessel made its course direct here.

July 16.—It is intended that we leave here at the earliest moment. Yesterday, by the assistance of Governor Elberg and Captain Buddington, I purchased an excellent team of sledge dogs. Next Winter will find me half Esquimaux, I doubt not. Captain Buddington intends finding good quarters for the George Henry, then proceeding with me through Prebisher's Straits and Fox Channel. Circumstances will decide as to penetrating also Repulse Bay. I shall learn much practical information this winter.

July 22, 1 a.m.—A fresh breeze now prevails. We are now off for the west side of Davis's Straits.

The Compounded Bitters have no equal as a tonic medicine. They contain no alcohol, and are especially adapted to the delicate constitution of females suffering from debility or from any derangement of the natural functions.

Indian Outrages.—Accounts from the Peninsula of Lower California represent that a band of Mexican Indians and California thieves and murderers have lately entered that territory, and committed the most atrocious outrages upon many persons. Ten natives had been murdered, and one American. The band had declared their intention to kill thirty-three persons, including the Governor, Judges, Councillors of State, and the priests. The whole country was alarmed, and had fled for protection. The Governor had 150 men on his side, and had sent to San Diego for aid. A whale vessel was dispatched down the coast from San Diego, on the 31st ult., with considerable ammunition, and such supplies as were necessary, for offering assistance.

Advices from Oregon are to the 27th ult., overland. They convey but little intelligence.

Gov. Douglass of British Columbia has visited the Creek Mines with a revenue officer, calling on every trader and compelling him to pay as high as $1 20 for the privilege of selling goods to the miners. The excitement continued at the new diggings, and miners are reported to be making from $8 to $20 per day. Claims are selling at $1,000 to $1,200.

Rich mines had also been discovered in Douglas Cou Oregon, which are thought to be extensive.

Canada.

The small pox is very bad in Ottawa city, the disease having been spread by inoculation, a practice which although prohibited by law under a heavy penalty is extremely prevalent in Canada.

John B. Gough is lecturing to large audiences in Montreal.

The weather has been very wet and mild in Canada. Flour sells wholesale at $5 40 per bbl.

New Brunswick.

The last Fredericton *Reporter* writes thus cheeringly in reference to the position of New Brunswick at the present time—

"With the exception of a few interested parties who are making a strong canvass for office, and who care not by what means they may obtain it, we have never seen the whole Province so apparently contented as at present—Providence has been pleased to prosper the labour of the people in an eminent degree, in the three branches of its application;—Trade has prospered, Manufactures have been in good demand, and the Agricultural produce of the country has turned out so well as to place every industrious occupant of the soil beyond the reach of destitution."

The *Reporter* also states—"We have it on the very best authority that the Commissioners of our Railway have paid into the Treasury Eight Thousand pounds as profit on the traffic over and above the running expenses during the past year."

Henry G Simonds of St John, N. B., was drowned on Thursday last week in the Kennebecasis River. A Boat Race was to have come off, but the wind was violent. Mr S. ventured out in a small boat, which capsized. Mr S. was a man of wealth and position, and his death has cast a gloom over the community.

Nova Scotia.

Small Pox.—Dr Weeks has visited Chezzetcook at the request of the Sessions, and states that he found 22 cases there. He has been instructed to render every assistance, and to vaccinate every person within a mile of the settlement. The disease is of the most malignant form. One or two deaths had occurred up to the latest information.—*Wesleyan.*

Newfoundland.

Destructive fires have occurred at Carbonear on the 1st inst. and at Harbor Grace on the 6th inst. The latter appears to have been a very disastrous calamity; property was destroyed to the amount of near £20,000. Twenty-three chimnies are left standing. Seventeen houses and eighteen shops and stores destroyed.

The Protestant.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1860.

Temperance Meeting.—A Temperance Meeting will be held [D. V.] on Monday evening next, 26th inst., at the Temperance Hall, at which addresses will be given by several clergymen and others. Some choice selections of music will be sung by a choir of ladies and gentlemen, who have kindly consented to render their assistance on the occasion. The attendance of the public generally is earnestly and respectfully solicited. The chair will be taken at eight o'clock.

Prince of Wales Ploughing Match.—This Ploughing Match came off on Tuesday the 13th inst., in a large field opposite the Farmer's Inn, Princetown Road. It is to be regretted the weather was so unfavorable that only six ploughmen could be mustered, and the contest had to be continued on the following day. After a close competition between Mr D. Woodside, and Mr L. M'Neill, of the first class, the latter was decided to be the victor. The judges, who were Hector M'Lean Esq., Mr James Dixon, and Mr Arthur Chilion, awarded the prizes as follows:—1. Laughlin M'Neill—£1 12s 6d; 2. Daniel Woodside—£1 7s 6d; 3. Albert M'Kinnon—£1 5s; 4. Robert Hewet—£1; 5. John M'Gregor—10s; 6. Agustus Bell—7s 6d.

The Judges and others return their thanks to the gentlemen in the city, and vicinity of Charlottetown who contributed so liberally towards the object.—*Com.*

We learn from the *Eastern Chronicle* that a Marine Railway is about to be constructed at Pictou. Active operations will be commenced as early in the spring as the weather will permit. Will the Pictonians outstrip the people of Charlottetown in enterprise?

Commendable.—A correspondent of the *Examiner* announces that Lady Georgiana Fane, proprietress of Township lands within this Colony, being there in person, on becoming personally acquainted with the difficulties beetting the tenents on her Estates, and the general state and condition of the tenantry—has, in a noble spirit of justice, of true benevolence and sterling sympathy, redounding to her Ladyship's lasting honor, forgiven the arrears of rent due on her estates, and reduced the rent thereon to sixpence sterling per acre; and will furnish new leases free of any charge. The boon which her ladyship has bequeathed—the homes which she makes happy—the toil which she lightens must have the unfailing gratitude of the Tenantry, and will command the thanks of their posterity. We learn that this announcement is correct only so far as Lot 53 is concerned.

Reviews.—The *Westminster* and *Edinburgh Reviews* for October have been received. The contents of the former are—1. Neo-Christianity; 2. North American Indians; 3. Robert Owen; 4. The Organization of Italy; 5. The Antiquity of the Human Race; 6. Russia—Present and Future; 7. Our National Defences; 8. Thackeray as a Novelist and Photographer; 9 Contemporary Literature. We regret that though this publication has very able articles on some subjects, we cannot as a whole recommend it to our readers. The No. of the Edinburgh Review before us sustains the well-known character of that periodical. It has articles on Recent Geographical Researches, Memoirs of the Master of Sinclair, Max Muller's Ancient Sanscrit Literature, Grotius and the Sources of International Law, The Churches of the Holy Land, The Grand Remonstrance, Scottish County Histories, Brain Difficulties, The United States under Buchanan.

The United Service Gazette of the 3rd inst, says:—"We are sorry to hear that in consequence of serious disturbances on board the *Cossack*, 21, Capt. Moorman,—that ship has been ordered home, for the purpose of holding court martial on alleged offenders."

It is stated that the Newfoundland Fishery Convention is still a sealed book to those most interested in its complexion and operation. It is known to the people of Newfoundland that a new Convention between France and England was arranged last winter; but the terms of the instrument are still withheld from publication, and not even Governor Bannerman has been let into the secret. It is said that the new Convention will go into effect without reference to the wishes of the Legislature of that Province.

Land Commission.

[Continued from our fourth page.]

Com. Haliburton—When did you get possession of your land?

Mr ———.—About 20 years ago.

Com. Haliburton—You bought it from one Hughes; how much did you pay him for it?

Mr ——.—Nearly £20.

Com. Palmer—Mr Robert Bruce Stewart is present by our invitation to give evidence if called upon, but by so doing he does not wish to be considered as in any way submitting to the Commission, not having signed the agreement for its appointment.

Com. Thomson—Mr Stewart comes here to make as much noise as he can, and still does not recognize the authority of this Court. I protest against his being heard unless he submits himself to be examined by us.

Com. Gray—Mr Stewart has a perfect right to be here.

Mr M'Isaac, another tenant of the Trachadie estate examined by Counsel Thomson.—What rent do you pay? 1s 6d an acre now. From whom did you get the land? From my father. My father had an agreement, but it was given up to get a lease, and never received back, nor was a lease obtained. Your father paid rent for a number of years, and then the agreement was taken away? Yes, and they tried to turn me out. They kept me in law for 10 years; I was a boy come to an agreement to give me a lease at 1s 6d an acre. They had three actions against me. I offered to take a lease at fair terms.

Com. Gray—Why did they wish you out of the farm?

Mr M'Isaac—They wanted the land for a farm for themselves.

Com. Gray.—Are you in arrears of rent?

Mr M'I.—Yes, one year.

Com. Gray—What is the value of the land?

Mr M'I.—60 years ago it was worth nothing; now it may be valued at from 4s to 5s an acre.

Com. Gray—Are the people generally in arrears in that part.

Mr M'I.—A number of them are. To give you an idea of the quality of our land, I may say that I had 5 acres under hay this year, and had not a ton and a half. If I had not a little boat with which I go out fishing, I would starve.

Com. Gray—Who raises all the oats which are shipped from the Island?

Mr M'I—The country is pretty generally settled, and when one sells 50 bushels, and another 100, and so on, it soon makes up a number of cargoes. Another thing I may mention, is that there is a failure in the crops every 7th year, taking one with another.

George Beer, M.P.P. before the Court.—Your Excellencies, I received your note soliciting information on this Question, and not wishing to occupy too much of your time, have embodied my remarks in a short memorial, which I will now read—

To the Honorable J. H. Gray, Hon Joseph Howe, and J. W. Ritchie, Esquire, Commissioners for settling the Land Question, &c., &c., &c.

May it please your Excellencies;

I attended a considerable portion of the first week's sittings of your Honorable Court, in Charlottetown, and heard a great part of the evidence adduced before you.

I express a wish to the Hon. Joseph Howsley, that I should have an opportunity afforded me, as one of the Representatives of the People, of making a few remarks bearing on the subject-matter of the Land Commission. I did not obtain a hearing at your first sitting; and fearing that a good opportunity may not again occur, I have embodied the substance of what I intended to say in this Memorial, to which I now beg leave to call your excellency's attention.

You have already received a large amount of information on the subject of the non-fulfilment of the conditions of the original Grants of the Township Lands of this Island, and the consequent liability to forfeiture of several of the said Townships. The large amount of Quit rents alleged to be due, the fishery Reserves, the harsh treatment of the Loyalists, short Leases, arrears of Rent, &c., &c., have also been brought under your notice. A great deal more may yet and I doubt not will be said on these subjects,—sufficient, probably, to satisfy your Excellencies that the Prince Edward Islanders are—and not without reason—dissatisfied with their condition.

There are, however, other grounds for dissatisfaction, which have, I believe, been but slightly touched upon by those who have come before you,—equally as forcible as those above alluded to, and which afford the strongest reasons why the present Land Tenures should be abolished.

Prince Edward Island, when compared with the neighboring Provinces, must appear to your Excellencies to be labouring under many and great natural disadvantages. We have no coal, a source of great wealth to some of these, but a great drain upon us. Already we have to remit thousands of pounds annually to pay for that necessary article. Hundreds of our oldest settlers find it exceedingly difficult to obtain firewood, and many have already begun to purchase coal for fuel. We have no limestone, which we are, consequently, under the necessity of importing from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, both for mechanical and agricultural purposes. It is found impossible to preserve land in this Island in a state of fertility, for any great length of time, without the application of lime, or some other good substitute, such as mussel mud, which but few can procure. Large quantities of limestone have, therefore, to be imported and burnt for manure, to prevent our soil becoming entirely exhausted, and in a few years tens of thousands of pounds annually will be required to pay for the coal and limestone thus consumed. Whilst the neighboring Provinces abound with valuable minerals, we are totally destitute of these. The building in which your Excellencies are now assembled was erected with stone imported from Nova Scotia. We have little or no intervale or marsh land, whilst Nova Scotia and New Brunswick abound with intervale and marshes of immense extent and of incalculable value. We have no regular troops to assist our markets,—no head quarters for Her Majesty's Navy, in which to spend their money,—no fortifications costing their hundreds of thousands of pounds, and thereby, increasing the wealth of the surrounding country. Nova Scotia enjoys all these advantages in a very high degree. We have no back country, with its interminable forests to foster a large and lucrative lumber trade—(instance the immense tract of country through which the St. John River and its tributaries flow.) Ours is an isolated country at all seasons, but doubly so in winter, when we are precluded from all access to foreign markets with our surplus produce. But the evil we have mostly to complain of is this: our agriculturists, instead of being freeholders, have to pay absentee proprietors an annual rental for their farms. I need not remind your Excellencies of the evils absenteeism has inflicted upon Ireland or this Island, and that the inhabitants of the neighboring Provinces, whilst enjoying so many other advantages, possess this in addition,—*they own the soil they cultivate.*

Who, I would respectfully ask your Excellencies, has in equity *one-tenth part of the right* of the man who has spent the best years of his life in clearing a farm, bringing it into a state of cultivation, and thereby causing it to have a real value,—which before it scarcely had,—to claim and own that farm? A large proportion of our settlers are very poor, with a large accumulation of arrears of rent hanging over their heads. A fair sample of this class, I would remark you have not had before you in Charlottetown; for I have observed that the delegations from several of the townships have been composed almost exclusively of the most wealthy and independent of their settlers.

One fact in particular has come within my own knowledge I feel bound to remark upon, namely, a considerable number of those largely in arrears for rent have been induced,—I may say compelled,—within the last six months, to give their notes of hand for the same, thereby anticipating and evading the action of the present Royal Commission.

From all these circumstances, I think it will be quite evident to your Excellencies that the sooner the settlers in Prince Edward Island become freeholders the better will it be for them and their posterity; and were that to take place to-morrow, even then they would labor under many serious disadvantages, when compared with the agricultural populations of the neighboring Provinces.

In addition to the above, it may be remarked, that we have to pay our own Civil List, and have little or no Government Lands over and above those recently purchased from the proprietors. Ten years since, we were differently circumstanced in both these respects. Our young men, too, are continually leaving the Colony, chiefly on account of the pernicious leasehold land tenure which prevails here.

Your Honorable Court is, I presume, a Court of Equity. The British Government will be as much bound by its award as either the proprietors or the tenantry; and as the British Government have inflicted upon the Island so grievous a wrong, and made so fatal a mistake, by granting away its township lands to persons having claims on the Imperial Government, ought they not, in all fairness, to pay at least one moiety of the compensation which may be awarded to the proprietors by your Excellencies? It would not cost them one-fiftieth part of the sum paid by them to emancipate the sable sons of Africa who were held in bondage in the West India Islands; and I would respectfully submit, for your Excellencies' most serious consideration, whether or not it would be right, under all the circumstances, to saddle this poor Colony with the full price of its own redemption.

In full confidence of the rectitude of your decision.

I remain
Your Excellencies
Most obedient Servant,
GEORGE BEER, M. P. P.

Com. Ritchie—What district do you represent?

Mr Beer—I represent Charlottetown at present, but I formerly represented Lots 24, 34, 23, &c.

Com. Ritchie—What is the value of the land which belongs to the Government on the Worrell Estate?

Mr B.—It is not worth so much as some other lands in the Colony. The land on Lots 33 and 34, for example, is more valuable, because of a better quality, and situate nearer the market of Charlottetown.

Com. Howe—Is the Worrell Estate better or worse land than Tracadie.

Mr B.—I think it is fully as good.

Com. Ritchie—What is the state of agriculture on the Island?

Mr B.—In general it is in a backward state, though it is improving.

Com. Gray—Is there not some advantage derived from the fisheries?

Mr B.—I do not think they will ever benefit the Colony. The people would do better by attending to their farms.

Com. Gray—What is your opinion about the fishery reserves.

Mr B.—I think to leave them unoccupied would be a great curse to the country. They should remain in private properties, and people's land on the coast be left to run down to the shore.

Com. Howe—Is the land here more difficult to keep in heart than in Nova Scotia?

Mr B.—I think it is.

Com. Howe—Will land here raise 2 tons of hay to the acre?

Mr B.—It will, with very high cultivation.

Com. Haliburton—Is the Island not better adapted for sheep than Nova Scotia?

Mr B.—Probably it is, owing to the natural grass.

Com. Haliburton—Also for roots too, as turnips?

Mr B.—Yes, it may, with very high cultivation.

Patrick Wynne, one of the delegates from Lot 31, examined by Coun. Hensley—Who is the present owner of the part of the Township on which you reside? Mr Doane. Are you a tenant or freeholder? I can scarcely state what I am; I have a lease, but it will run out within three years. Have you the lease in your own name? Yes: I took it in 1853, and it is for a term of 21 years. What rent do you pay? £3 12s. currency for 40 acres. When you took the land was it in a wilderness state? It was. Was there any sight of purchase in the lease? Yes, during the term, at 30s an acre; but Mr Doane is charging now in some cases £3 12s an acre. Donald M'Kinnon paid £150 for 50 acres.

Com. Howe—Those who are paying this amount, did they make the money out of the land?

Mr W. No: this man whom I mentioned got the money in New Brunswick.

Com. Howe—Will he be able to take this money out of his farm?

Mr W—Never, though he live as old as Methuselah.

Com. Howe—Does the fact of Lot 31 being near Charlottetown give it any additional value?

Mr W.—No, I think not, as it is too far to draw wood to sell.

Com. Howe—Do you think it would pay you to give £150 for the fee simple of your farm?

Mr W.—It would be better to live on the interest of the money, only a person must have a home.

Com Howe—State what you think would be a fair price for the land over the Lot?

Mr W—I think, rather than leave their farms the people would be willing to pay the price at which the Government are selling their lands. The above are only a few of the questions proposed to Mr Wynne, but we deem them the most important.

Counsel Hensley introduced a delegation from Lot 49 and read their memorial. It required among other things that the titles should be inquired into, and some rate fixed upon for the land.

Mr Peter Robertson one of the delegates makes a few statements.—I suppose there is scarcely a Township on the Island which has so many owners as Lot 48; how they came by the land I cannot tell. There was a meeting held on the Lot a few days ago which was very well attended. The desire of some of those present appeared to be to get the back rents taken off, and the rent reduced, and of others to have an opportunity of purchasing their land at a reasonable price, say that which was given for the Selkirk estate. I told them that it was in the Commissioners' power to give them time to pay if they would purchase; but some of them said they would rather have the back rents taken off, and reduction of rent.

Com Howe—Is the quality of the land on that Lot good?

Mr R.—Pretty good in general.

Com Gray—You say that the Selkirk estate rate of sale would be a fair sum to pay for it?

Mr R.—They thought so.

Com Howe—That is not the rate they would be able to obtain it for?

Mr R.—They are willing to pay fair charges for working expenses. There is a grievance which I, as well as others, have to complain of, that is, the rise of rent. When I took my land I understood the rent was not to rise.

Com Gray—It is a very difficult matter, when a man has made an agreement, to relieve him from it; but perhaps we might do away with the rental system altogether.

Mr R.—As a general rule, the tenants on our Lot would rather purchase than pay rent.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr Laird;

Sir,—My attention has been called to your printed report of the proceedings before the Court of the Royal Commissioners on Saturday, 8th September.

For some reason or other, unexplained, your reporter has not thought fit to report a statement made by me in answer to an allegation made by Mr William Cousins, that there appears no grant on record for Township No. 20. I have to request therefore, that you will be so kind as to annex to your report, that I stated that said Township is held under a Mandamus, or Order of the King in Council, dated August, 1767, directed to the Governor of Nova Scotia; and that my ancestors, and myself and co-heirs have held continuous possession of one half Township. Since that time, that said possession has never been successfully disputed or interrupted. That it was most likely that the original owner of our half township, Colonel Bassett, (from the nature of his profession not having a permanent residence,) neglected to demand his grant until after this Island was erected into a separate Government; when, as a necessary consequence, the Governor of Nova Scotia would refuse to pass a grant. I further stated that the half township, with the exception of a small quantity, still continued in the family,—and that nearly the whole tract had been leased and settled for many years.

Your obedient Servant,
WILLIAM CUNDALL.

Charlottetown, 23d November, 1860.

Public Meeting at Rustico.

An unusually large meeting of the Tenantry on Lots 23 and 24 was held at the North Rustico School-house, on the evening of the 12th inst. The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That whereas the Proprietors of these Townships have issued notices demanding one year's rent from us; and that whilst believing said demands to be contrary to the Royal instructions by which the Court of Land Commissioners was appointed; and believing also that any attempt to enforce the payment of rent before the award of the Commissioners shall be made known, would be unfair, and calculated to disturb the peace of the Colony: Therefore *Resolved*, That it is the determination of this Meeting to pay no back rent until the Royal Commissioners have given their decision, as we have every confidence that Honorable Court will do ample justice to all parties concerned; and that when their award is given we shall use our utmost endeavours to comply with it."

JOHN HOUSTON, Chairman.

North Rustico, Nov. 14, 1860.

[For the Protestant.]

Temperance Reform in Pictou County.

Mr Editor:—Friends of the Temperance Reform in your City and Island will perhaps be provoked to greater zeal in the good cause, by hearing of what the Lord Jesus is doing for us in this County. We are now in the midst of one of the most remarkable Temperance revivals that we have had for years, especially when we consider the class of persons who are here taking hold of the cause. Hundreds of Church members, and many official members of Churches have recently connected themselves in this County with the cause, who were never before enrolled as members. Many of them being under the delusion that if they were not indulging in the use of Alcholic poisons themselves, they had discharged all duty to the good Cause. But, sir, you are aware that we live in no ordinary time; a great battle is being fought by the two great principles of truth and error, vice and virtue, light and darkness, love and hate, under the too great captains, the Lord Jesus Christ and Lucifer the Prince of Evil; and it is the duty, and it should be the delight of every loyal subject of the Saviour to take a decided and unequivocal stand in support of every movement that tends to remove the hinderances that are in the way of Christ's Cause in our world. And it is needless to say how detrimental to every good interest moral, social religious, or general, the traffic in strong drinks and the usages and customs that sustain this traffic are. It is therefore contended that the followers and friends of Christ should in the promotion of the Temperance Reform follow the directions of the Saviour given in 5th of Matthew from 18th to 20th verses, and the directions of Paul in Romans 14th and 15th chapters.

Using the arguments of Scripture as his best friends and as the most influential for good, we now find the Christian Teetotaller in all parts of our land giving battle to the liquor traffic and its *avaries*, doing battle with the drinking customs with their *appetites*, and giving no quarter to the careless ones who are in apathetic ease in Zion, while men and women are to the number of 300,000 every year being destroyed in our world by Intemperance. While we must consider the deliberate liquor seller as a very wicked man, we must remember that the parties who keep up the traffic by the sanction, purchase, or use of liquors as a beverage are equally guilty. If it were not for their patronage the traffic would soon cease in our world. When we are told by the celebrated Archdeacon Jefferson that for every converted heathen as the fruit of missionary effort, *the drinking usages of professing Christians make fully one thousand drunkards*, it is indeed high time for our churches, our clergy, our magistrates, our editors, our men and women of all ranks in life, to take a decided stand against the destructive evil.

Rev. James A. Davidson of Canada, agent of the Pictou County League, has now been lecturing constantly in this County since 24th of August, and has been the honored instrument under God of greatly reviving many backslidden and lukewarm Divisions of Sons of Temperance, Watchmen, &c and has likewise organized seventeen new societies. Old and influential Church members, and men of piety have publicly declared at Mr Davidson's meetings that they were for the first time in their lives convinced that it was their duty to become total abstainers. And it is from this class that most of the new societies have been made up and when the people of God take the cause in hand depend upon it sir it will not be allowed to pass away in a few days, as has been the history of the Cause generally where the Christian element was lacking.

The clergy of the Kirk of Scotland, as well as those of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, have almost to a man in this County, taken hold with Mr Davidson in the grand work. The press, the magistrates, and men of influence of all sides of politics have likewise given great assistance, and it is a cause of thankfulness to God, that his people are awakening up to duty to the Temperance Reform as they never were before in this county. To God be all glory.

Yours truly,
A Recording Scribe.

Pictou, N. S., Nov. 15, 1860.

MARRIED.

At Charlottetown on Tuesday the 20th instant, by the Rev. Mr Daniel, Mr John May, to Jane, second daughter of Mr James Connell, of this city. The happy couple immediately after embarked on board the Steamer Westmorland, on their way to California.

On the 17th instant, by the Rev Thomas Duncan, Mr A. C. Clark, of Lot 30, to Miss Margaret Ferguson, of Lot 48.

At Bay Fortune, on the 7th instant, by the Rev Henry Crawford, Mr John Alexander Dingwell, son of Hon James Dingwell, to Miss Eliza Burke, daughter of Edward Burke, all of Bay Fortune.

On the 21st instant, by Rev Robert Laird, Mr James M'Gillivary, Princetown, to Sarah, fifth daughter of Mr William Reilly, Lot 15.

DIED,

At New London, on the 18th October, of Diabetes, Louisa Matilda, second daughter of Mr George Anderson, in the 12th year of her age.

Of Diptheria, on the 3d instant, Artemas, aged 17 years; and on the 21st, Margaret, aged 19 years—son and daughter of Mr John Peat, Wiltshire, Lot 31. Both, though young in life, departed in joyous anticipation of that life that shall never end.

Passengers.

From Pictou on the 13th instant—Miss Esdall, Messrs. Sutherland, Frost, Calbeck.

From Shediac on the 16th—W. H. Pope, Esq., Messrs. P. Kennedy, M'Donald, M'Nutt, Hunt, Burris, Gray, Dixon, Clemenston, Gaffey.

From Pictou on the 17th—Messrs. J. de Carten, Kellog, Jardine.

From Pictou on the 20th—Messrs. A. Kay, R. Mutch, Smith, M'Intyre, Gray, Davies, Mr and Mrs Knight, and 6 others.

From Shediac on the 21st—Messrs. O'Halloran, D. Colbert, A. Hudson, D Ross, Rafferty, Dewar, Sims; Mrs Price, Mrs Cassidy, Mr and Mrs Galong.

From Pictou on the 23d—Rev J. D. M'Gillvary, Rev A. Sutherland, Messrs. Gaffney, R. M'Lean, T. Howet, Henderson, A. M'Donald, Eckeley, D. M'Isaac, M. Johnson, A. Munro, M'Donald, T. R. Noonan, R. Fraser, R. Doull, S. M'Ewen.

SHIPPING—PORT OF CHARLOTTETOWN.

INWARDS.

Nov. 16th—Steamer Lord Seaforth, Boulmhouse, Pictou, mails. Steamer Westmorland, Evans, Shediac.

17th—Schr Mary, M'Mahon, Trecadie, N. B., Shingles. Brigt Linnet, Fraser, Pictou, coal.

19th—Schr Margaret Ann, Bourke, Richibucto, deal and boards. Wonder, Lamkin, Trecadie, N. B., shingles. May Flower, Gerrior, Shediac, bal. Elizabeth, Scott, Pictou, coal. Three Sisters, Gaston, do., do. Steamer Westmorland, Evans, Pictou. Schr Lady Jane Gray, Paul, Miramichi, lumber.

20th—Carrie M. Rich, Hardy, Boston, goods. Rover, Anderson, do., do. Sans Souci, Martin, Harbor au Bouche, N. S., bal. Albert Trout Boodle, Boston, goods. Agility, Fye, Halifax, goods. Volunteer, Taylor, do, do. Brigt Dashaway, Bate, Gilsford, G. B., goods. Albert Edward, Ogden, St. John's N. F., bal. Steamer Westmorland, Evans, Pictou. Schr Primrose, Curtis, River John, N. S., boards. Arabella, Le Lacheur, Halifax, bal.

OUTWARDS.

Nov. 16th—Schr Eliza, Ford, Philadelphia, U. S., produce. Benjamin Willis, Staples, Frankfort, U. S., produce. J. M. C. M., Keazy, Halifax, produce. Flirt, Bushey, Pictou, bal.

18th—Quanda, Griffin, Halifax, produce.

17th—Sphinx, Dane, Yarmouth, N. S., produce. Steamer Westmorland, Evans, Shediac. Steamer Lord Seaforth, Boultenhouse, Pictou. Schr Lady Sale, Brow, Halifax, produce.

19th—Wonder, Lamkin, Shediac, bal. Steamer Westmorland, Evans, Pictou. Brigt Dauntless, Dogherty, St John's, N. F., produce. Schr Emma, M'Donald, Halifax, produce. Spray, Finn, Pictou, bal.

20th—Margaret, Fisher, N.F., produce. J. W. S. Griffin, Griffin, Halifax, produce. Lord Bury, Wightman, Halifax, produce. Uncle, Dolman, do., do. Zebra, Match, Sydney, bal. Native Lass, Gaster, Halifax, produce. Barque William Doane, Campbell, London, timber. Schr Caroline, Campbell, Plymouth, G. B., produce. Steamer Westmorland, Evans, Shediac.

21st—Arabella, Le Lacheur, Arichat, produce.